No. 54 TV43636

Psssssst...Pass it On...

Letters, letters, letters. . . Here are a few of the terrific letters that have been filling our offices.

Dear *Dynamite*,

This morning when I woke up I felt sick. But later on, my mother gave me my new issue of *Dynamite*. As soon as I read the first page I felt better. After I read the whole book I felt great! Well, I'm going out to play baseball now.

Michael Atkinson, Canada

Dear Michael,

Your letter made us feel great too. Batter up!

Dynamite

Dear *Dynamite*,

Here is a poem I wrote for you.

You've had lemons and losers to louse up our days;
Your Bummers are worse than old mayonnaise.
Each month the Count tries to get our goats,
But we always escape over bridges or moats.
There's always a song for each holiday;
Christmas, Easter, the first school day.
To Psst . . Pass It On we send all types of news,
And all sorts of Hot Stuff for you guys to use.
Each month a poster is stuck in the back,
To decorate a door if we've tape or a tack.
Good Dr. Kernberg gives us advice,
And Wanda has tricks that are always quite nice.
There's news on fads and the greatest of stars.
Your Gotchas have gone all but too far.
Just wanted to thank Jane Stine and the rest,
For making and keeping *Dynamite* number 1 and the best!

Tiki Dare, Coral Gables, FL

Dear Tiki, We thank you
For making our day!
Your poem was pure Dynamite
What more can we say?
Dynamite

Dear *Dynamite*,

I read your top rank-outs in *Dynamite* #49. They were great! Now here's one for you. *Dynamite*, you're just great — great at being weird.

Dale Elster, Corland, NY

Dear Dale,

With your sense of humor, you should go far — wait, we'll help you pack! Just kidding. Love ya.

Dynamite

Dear *Dynamite*,

I just loved your 50th issue! I hope you do the same thing for the 100th.

Michael Moore, Fortson, GA

Dear Michael,

That's a deal. Watch for it in 1982!

Dynamite

If you want to write to *Dynamite*, send your letters to Psssst, Pass It On/ *Dynamite*, 50 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036.

Dynamite is brought to you by *Dynamite*. Editor: Jane Stine. Art Direction: Wozney & Lucik Design. Managing Editor: Linda Aber. Associate Editor: Chip Lovitt. Assistant Editor: Susan Hood. Editorial Assistant: Pat Brigandi. Production Editor: Sharon Graham. Contributors and distractions: Peggy Herz, Alan Weiss, Sheldon Sturges, Anita Casertano, Jovial Bob Stine, Margaret Ronan, Haig Adishian, Sonia Black, and John Kirshon.

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DYNAMITE
A Monthly Book From Arrow, a Scholastic Book Club

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Back Cover: Title Search Puzzle.

Plus: Holiday cards to send and holiday stickers to seal them with!

TV'S GALACTICA:

A BATTLESTAR IS BORN!

Battlestar Galactica hit TV like the crashing of a meteorite from outer space. We have already seen the explosion of a large planet and the destruction of an entire city — and that was all in the first show! We have seen weird, ant-like creatures with four arms, a robot dog, and deadly laser fights by more than 50 spacecraft. It's no wonder that it took millions of dollars — and months of work — to get *Battlestar Galactica* off the ground.

One of the Battlestar's fierce foes.

Battlestar *Galactica*'s mission is to find a safe place for humankind to live. *Dynamite*'s mission was to find out something about the people behind the show. To do this, first Chip Lovitt talked to John Dykstra, the special effects genius who created the show. Then Peggy Herz spoke to Dirk Benedict and Richard Hatch, *Galactica*'s stars.

THE HEROES BEHIND THE CAMERAS

When Chip caught up with John Dykstra, he was working at his "shop," Industrial Light and Magic. This is where Dykstra created many of the special effects you see in *Galactica* — and many of the effects you saw in a little movie Dykstra worked on — a movie called *Star Wars*.

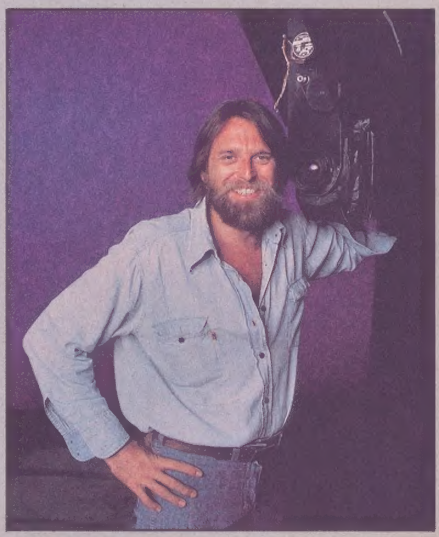
Special effects work is really exciting but very slow. "We spent over a year and a half just working on the photography and miniature models," Dykstra told *Dynamite*.

The most impressive miniature model is the Battlestar *Galactica* itself. Although it appears to be 2,000 feet long on screen, it's actually a six-foot model partially constructed out of parts from plastic model kits. "Much of the surface of the ship," Dykstra admitted, "is made of parts taken from everything from model tanks and trucks to battleships." Dykstra's crew also built more than 45 other ships, ranging from fighters to starships. Most were under a foot long.

Many of the special effects were done using specially built computerized cameras and all kinds of intricate film techniques. Blowing up a planet, for example, was done by combining two separate pieces of film. One showed an explosion taking place. The second showed an image of a planet. The two pieces of film were combined and run together. "As the explosion starts to appear, we just fade the planet out," said Dykstra. One dogfight sequence has a combination of seven pieces of film. A few scenes used as many as 13 separate shots. That's what makes special effects so tricky. "Every piece of film has to be combined and put down on the final negative just right. Lighting has to be just right on each shot and colors have to match perfectly," Dykstra explained.

Some effects were simple to create. A starry sky was created by hanging a black velvet curtain with hundreds of tiny holes in the studio. When bright lights were shined from behind the curtain, thousands of pinpricks of light created the illusion of stars. Another interesting effect showing eerie light from the sun was done by bouncing laser beams off an ordinary bowling trophy.

Everyone involved with the show is hoping that the show will be a success. With superspecial effects, daring dogfights in space, and a cast filled with handsome heroes and out of this world aliens, *Galactica*'s flight could last for a few seasons. If the show does rocket to the top of the ratings, much of the credit will have to go to Dykstra and his 60-person crew. But let's not forget the people in front of the camera. *Galactica* isn't just flashy effects; there are also some interesting people aboard the ship — as Peggy Herz found out.



John Dykstra, the mastermind of *Galactica*.

THE HEROES IN FRONT OF THE CAMERAS

The major characters in the series are played by Richard Hatch and Dirk Benedict, with Lorne Greene as the commander of the spacecraft. When *Dynamite* went to see the two young stars of the sci-fi hit a few months ago, both were wearing their dress uniforms, capes and all.

"Don't you think the capes make us look important?" Dirk asked with a laugh. We assured him the capes made them look . . . well, out of this world.

"I love playing Starbuck," Dirk said about the character he plays. "Starbuck is a little sneaky, but he doesn't have a mean bone in his body. He's a positive, happy character. He loves to play cards — and I can relate to that. I grew up playing cards with ranchers in Montana! I grew up in White Sulphur Springs, Montana. That's a ranching town of about 900 people. We didn't even have any movies there, except in the summer."

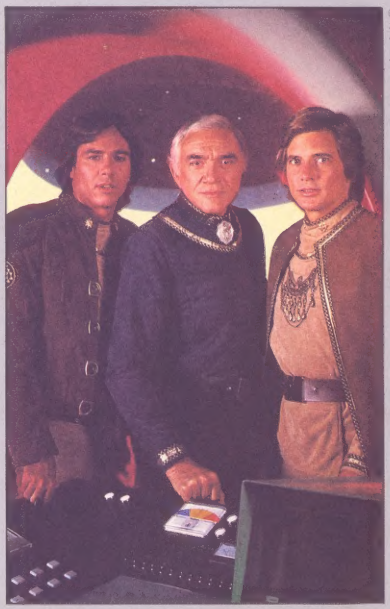
Dirk grinned. He is an easygoing young man whose manner reflects his Montana background. "I have wonderful memories of growing up," he admitted. "The life we lived then doesn't seem to exist anymore. There was hunting, fishing, ice skating, skiing, sleigh rides, fireside gatherings, and so on. When I was 10, I started working on a ranch. Then in the evening I'd play catch with Dad. We made our own archery equipment; we did all kinds of things. I have a brother and a sister. To this day, they have no desire to live in a big city."

Dirk's father was a lawyer. "He is no longer alive," Dirk said, "but he was a tremendous influence on my life. He always said that you can do anything you want to with your life. There are no limits to what you can do."

Dirk didn't know he wanted to act until he got to college. Even then, it took him awhile to discover his interest in the theater. When he first got to college, he felt like a visitor from another planet. He remembers those days very clearly.

"I went to a private college in Washington State," he said. "It was my first look at the world beyond our small ranching town. I had been working on ranches while the other kids in this college had been going to concerts and plays and ballets. They had a sophistication I didn't have. And yet," Dirk added thoughtfully, "even then I had a sense of being well-rounded in my education. When it came to living, I was better prepared than they were. I knew how to brand cattle, how to fish and shoot a bow and arrow, how to live in the woods . . . ."

Dirk started college as a music major. "Theater just kind of happened," he recalled. "Since then I've spent a lot of time



From left to right: Richard Hatch, Lorne Greene, and Dirk Benedict.

working on the stage with repertory groups. And several years ago I was in the TV series *Chopper One*. I had been working steadily up to that point. Then when that series ended, I didn't work for a year and a half. There was a definite lull in my career! But I believe that things come to us at a time when we need them. I traveled a lot during that time and spent six weeks alone in a cabin in New Hampshire, eating only whole-grain foods. My father always said, 'Don't expect life to be easy. You will have problems, but you learn from the bad times.' I think he was right. I learned and grew — and now I'm thrilled to be in *Battlestar Galactica*."

Richard Hatch shares Dirk's enthusiasm for *Battlestar Galactica*. "It's great fun to be in a show like this," Richard said. "It's like playing cops and robbers. We run around firing laser pistols and so on. The idea of being in outer space is very exciting."

© 1978 Universal Studios

An artist's rendering of a dogfight in space.

Richard started acting when he was going to Washington High School in Santa Monica, California. He later headed for New York with a Los Angeles repertory company, and the move turned out to be a good one for him. He got a major part in a daytime serial called *All My Children*. The job lasted two and a half years and gave him valuable acting experience. In June, 1972, he headed back to Los Angeles. He appeared as a guest star in a number of TV series and then was cast as a regular in ABC's *The Streets of San Francisco*.

"I went into that show as a replacement for Michael Douglas," Richard said. "Joining an established hit is never easy. Now, on *Galactica*, I've been involved from the very beginning."

Richard is a great sci-fi fan. "I *love* science fiction," he exclaimed. "As a kid I spent hours reading science fiction stories. To me, science fiction is not something that's impossible. It's something that has realistic possibilities, written by somebody who has insight into what life could be like in the future . . . something that makes me say, 'Wow! That could happen!' A good science fiction writer sees things that most of us cannot see. I'm just fascinated by the whole subject of what life will be like in the future."

Richard is trying to play his character Apollo as a "man of truth and understanding," he said. "Apollo has great insight into the people around him. He also has a wonderful relationship with Noah, the little six-year-old boy."

Battlestar Galactica is filled with space pioneers of all ages. They are hoping to find a distant colony known as Earth. With Apollo and Starbuck in the lead, they may never find Earth, but with John Dykstra's help they'll find plenty of danger and excitement in their search through outer space!

Good Grief, It's A Puzzling Peanuts Test!

Over the years, "Peanuts" has become the world's most popular comic strip. Every day, readers in dozens of countries follow the exploits of that lovable loser, Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and the rest of the gang. Did you know that in Denmark, where there is no word for peanut, the strip is called "Radiserne," which means radishes!

Even if you're a regular reader, there are probably quite a few things you don't know about the Peanuts gang. Here's your chance to see if you're really a Peanuts know-it-all. Just answer the following 15 questions. Check your answers below and see what your score means. Don't worry about your score, though. This test is only meant to provide you with a little comic relief.

---

1. **The teacher Linus fell in love with was:**
   a.) Miss Ostrich
   b.) Miss Othmar
   c.) Mr. Kotter

2. **Sometimes Snoopy pretends to be a:**
   a.) vulture
   b.) lion
   c.) a and b

3. **Lucy has a booth that provides**
   a.) psychiatric help
   b.) refreshments for the Peanuts gang
   c.) information on how to join the Charlie Brown Fan Club

4. Who calls Snoopy "the kid with the funny nose"?
a.) Charlie
b.) Peppermint Patty
c.) Lucy

5. Who calls Peppermint Patty "sir"?
a.) Linus
b.) Marci
c.) Snoopy

6. Who is the manager of the Peanuts baseball team?
a.) Snoopy
b.) Linus
c.) Charlie Brown

7. Who is the pitcher on the team?
a.) Charlie Brown
b.) Lucy
c.) Snoopy

8. Who calls Charlie Brown "Chuck"?
a.) Snoopy
b.) Franklin
c.) Peppermint Patty

9. Who is Charlie Brown's little sister?
a.) Frieda
b.) Sally
c.) Violet

10. The creator of Peanuts is:
a.) Charlie Brown
b.) Charles M. Schulz
c.) Charles M. Schwartz

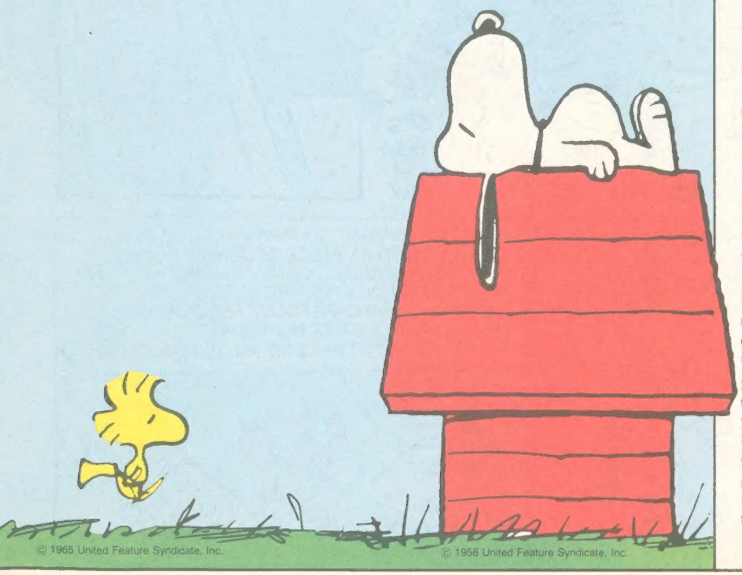
11. One of Snoopy's roles is:
a.) Woodstock
b.) Joe Cool
c.) Franklin

12. Who are Lucy's best friends?
a.) Sally and Snoopy
b.) Peppermint Patty and Marci
c.) Violet and Patti

13. Who has naturally curly hair?
a.) Marci
b.) Frieda
c.) Snoopy

14. Who are the outfielders on the baseball team?
a.) Lucy and Frieda
b.) Charlie Brown and Schroeder
c.) Reggie Jackson and Fred Lynn

15. Besides his blanket, what else does Linus do to give him security?
a.) sucks his thumb
b.) dances
c.) eats



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Answers

1. (b) Linus was in love with Miss Othmar. If you picked Miss Ostrich or Mr. Kotter, better hit the book.

2. (c) Snoopy, that dog of a thousand disguises, often pretends he's a lion or a vulture.

3. (a) Lucy's booth provides psychiatric help. If it was the Charlie Brown fan club, she'd leave!

4. (b) Peppermint Patty thinks Snoopy is a kid with a long hairy nose!

5. (b) Marci always calls Peppermint Patty "sir" even though Patty always tells Marci not to.

6. (c) Charlie Brown is the manager and he's lost more games than any manager in history.

7. (a) Charlie is also the losingest pitcher in baseball history.

8. (c) Peppermint Patty calls Charlie Chuck, instead of "Blockhead," like everyone else.

9. (b) Sally is Charlie Brown's sister.

10. (b) Charles M. Schulz is the creator of the Peanuts gang.

11. (b) One of Snoopy's favorite roles is Joe Cool. Woodstock is his little bird friend and Franklin's one of the gang.

12. (c) Lucy's friends are Patti and Violet. They're the only ones who can put up with her.

13. (b) Frieda's got naturally curly hair, as she likes to tell everyone.

14. (a) Lucy and Frieda are the dynamite duo in the outfield, although they could use Reggie and Fred.

15. (a) Linus still sucks his thumb, even after all these years.

HOW TO SCORE:

Give yourself 5 points for each correct answer you picked. Add up the total.

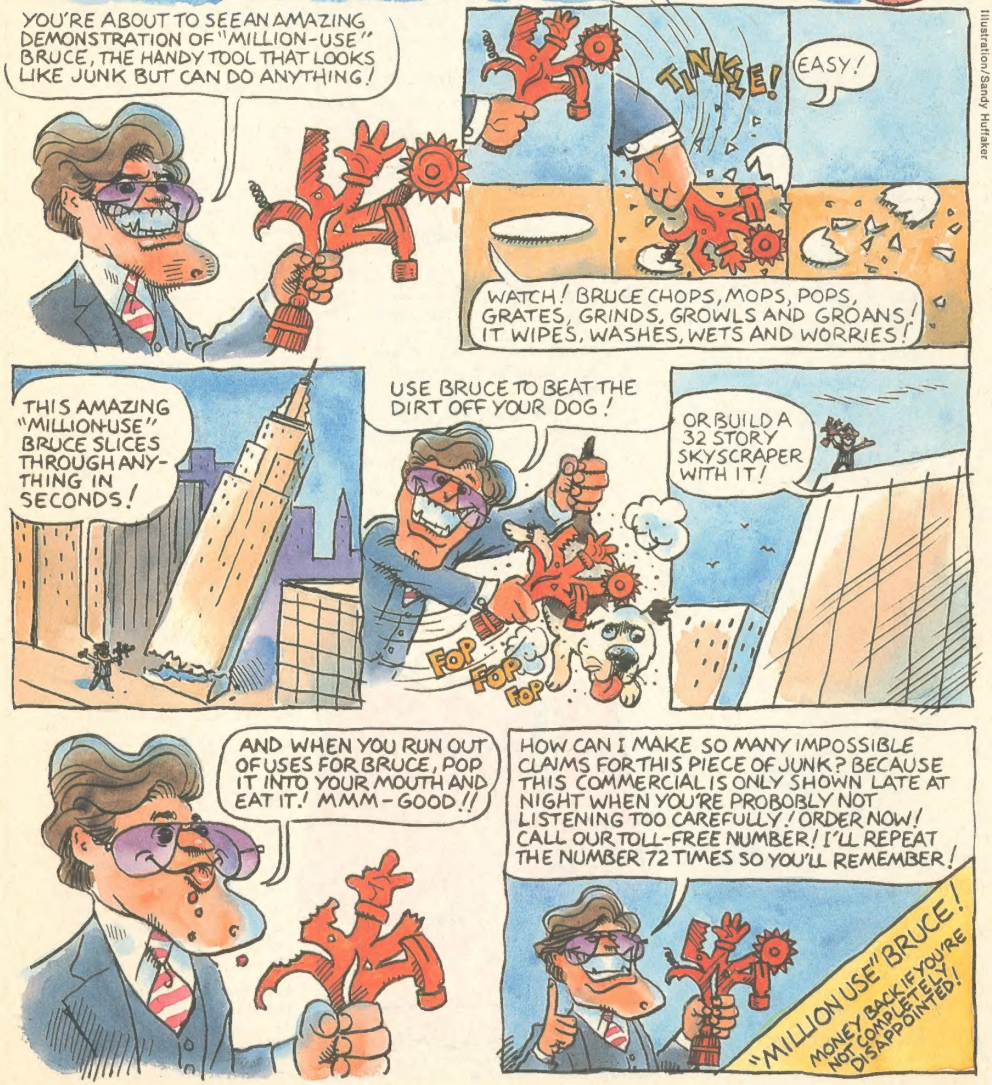
RESULTS

0-25 Good Grief! You'd better brush up on your Peanuts facts or you'll be sentenced to join their baseball team.

26-50 While you're not a blockhead of the Charlie Brown type, your score puts you in the doghouse. But since it's Snoopy's doghouse with its pool table and color TV, that's not too bad.

51-75 You're absolutely nuts for Peanuts. You know so much about them, you're practically one of the gang!

And Now A Word From Our Sponsor


YOU'RE ABOUT TO SEE AN AMAZING DEMONSTRATION OF "MILLION-USE" BRUCE, THE HANDY TOOL THAT LOOKS LIKE JUNK BUT CAN DO ANYTHING!
TINKLE!
EASY!
WATCH! BRUCE CHOPS, MOPS, POPS, GRATES, GRINDS, GROWLS AND GROANS! IT WIPES, WASHES, WETS AND WORRIES!
THIS AMAZING "MILLION-USE" BRUCE SLICES THROUGH ANYTHING IN SECONDS!
USE BRUCE TO BEAT THE DIRT OFF YOUR DOG!
FOP FOP FOP
OR BUILD A 32 STORY SKYSCRAPER WITH IT!
AND WHEN YOU RUN OUT OF USES FOR BRUCE, POP IT INTO YOUR MOUTH AND EAT IT! MMM-GOOD!!
HOW CAN I MAKE SO MANY IMPOSSIBLE CLAIMS FOR THIS PIECE OF JUNK? BECAUSE THIS COMMERCIAL IS ONLY SHOWN LATE AT NIGHT WHEN YOU'RE PROBABLY NOT LISTENING TOO CAREFULLY! ORDER NOW! CALL OUR TOLL-FREE NUMBER! I'LL REPEAT THE NUMBER 72 TIMES SO YOU'LL REMEMBER!
"MILLION USE" BRUCE!
MONEY BACK IF YOU'RE NOT COMPLETELY DISAPPOINTED!

Illustration/Sandy Huffaker

Loony Literary Losers

These Loony Literary Losers will never be found on any library shelf — they can only be found in *Dynamite*. And although they might not always getcha a laugh, they'll always getcha a groan! Check them out! We think this light-hearted book list is long overdue.

Over the Cliff by Hugo First
Under the Sea by Sandy Bottom
Playing a Horn by Clara Net
How to Speak Up by Mike Crofone
Emergency! by Colleen Allcars
Working for Peanuts by Ella Funt
The Rat Trap by Chad R. Cheese
How to Wash Your Hair by Dan Druff
101 Ways to a More Beautiful You by Hugh R. Sovane
Great Places to Visit Down South by Louise E. Ana
The New Math by Cal Q. Later
King of the Demolition Derby by Rex Carz
M. T. Tank by Phil R. Upp
The Care and Feeding of Your Pet Parakeet by Polly Wanda Craquer

Illustration/Rhonda Klapper

HOT STUFF

Freeze Don't Move!

You'll want to stick around to hear about this super fruity frozen snack on a stick 'cause it's guaranteed to tackle the snack attacks anytime they tackle you! We don't monkey around when it comes to making munchies, so freeze up some of these sweet treats and sink your sweet tooth into something that's good and good for you!

All you need are popsicle sticks, bananas, granola or nuts, and some maple syrup. Peel a banana and cut it in half across the middle. Push each half onto a popsicle stick. Then roll each "banana popsicle" in a mixture of granola and maple syrup and put it on a tray in the freezer. When the coating is frozen, they're ready to eat.

Next time you're hungry, just get on the stick and take your licks! With this top banana pop you're going to get a licking, but good!

Thank you, Lisa Rouleau, of Saskatchewan, Canada, for this nutty idea!

By the Light of the Silvery Room...

News flash! If your furniture is old and drab and the paint's peeling and your room is generally suffering from a case of room gloom, *Dynamite*'s Department of Interiors has a sure cure to help you see the light. Turn a dull room into a shining, shimmering, glittering Dynamite room that reflects the sunny side of you! Just a box or two of silver foil will give your old furniture a face lift with the look of chrome!

Start by covering picture frames, or the arms and legs of your chairs with silver foil. Use silver-backed thumbtacks to hold it all together, or clear tape will work just as well. Cover anything and everything you want to look more modern. Go to even greater heights and hang panels of silver foil down your wall from the ceiling. When you're done, your room will not only look brighter, it will seem bigger! And as for room gloom — it's foiled again!

X-tra Sensory Perception

Here's a trick to show the world that when it comes to doing magic tricks, you're something X-tra special! All you need are a paper bag and a few oranges to juice up your act with this X-citing trick. Here's how to turn on the charm and show your friends X-actly what we mean by X-tra Sensory Perception.

First show them that one of your oranges is marked with a big black X. (You've marked it beforehand.) Show them the others are unmarked. Then put all the oranges in the paper bag and ask a member of your audience to shake it to mix up the oranges inside. You say, "Ladies and gentlemen! I will now demonstrate my unique powers. I will pick out the orange with the X while blindfolded!" Allow a friend to blindfold you. Then just reach in and pull the orange out. How do you do it? Simple. The marked orange has been refrigerated. The others are warm. All you do is feel around for the cold one and pull it out!

This cool trick should bring you warm applause because, after all, next to this orange trick anything else will look like a real lemon!

Thanks to Robin Ross of Bridgeport, CT, for this sensible idea!

Gotcha Right in the Palm of My Hand!

Come and get 'em! Getcha Gotchas while they're hot! Hot Stuff, that is. This Gotcha trick is so hot, it's gonna getcha a Gotcha victim every time!

You know how there's always some kid who says "I can hold my breath longer than you!" Well, this breathtaking trick will let you take a breather from such silly contests. With a solemn expression on your face, you say, "Nope. I can hold my breath longer. You go first and I'll time you." When it's your turn (when your friend's face starts to turn blue, that's your cue), shake your head and say, "That's pretty tough to beat, but here goes. . . ." How do you beat it? No problem! Just take a deep breath, blow it in your fist, and hold it! After all, the bet was that you could hold your breath longer. Nobody said *where* you had to hold it! So go ahead and hold your breath in your fist for as long as it takes to beat your friend's time. Then, with a sly wink, give 'em a good "Gotcha!" and add, "But I wouldn't breathe a word about it!" After this sneaky trick, you better blow town 'cause your friend may just blow up!

Thanks to Lynda Lesmeister of Ballwin, MO, for this handy trick

Illustration/Werner Kappes

DYNAMITE AUTO GRAPHICS

Weird Wheels

Are you ready for this? Well, ready or not, get set for the fun because here they come — the Soap Box Specials! What's that? You say you've never seen soap box cars look this good? Neither have we!

At one time, soap box derbies were for kids only. The neighborhood gang got together with a few wooden crates (or soap boxes), a few spare parts, a couple of wheels, and presto, chango — it's a homemade car that makes a super downhill racer! It can only go downhill because there are no pedals and no motor! The old soap box car was nothing fancy — strictly a no-frills operation that was simply a carload of fun!

Well, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the area artists believe that kids shouldn't have all the fun all the time, so they decided to go with the idea of a soap box derby for a fun fund raiser. The museum invited artists to use their special talents and create one-of-a kind soap box racers. The mobile masterpieces on these pages are some of their creations. The "racers" were even tried out in a downhill run in San Francisco. Obviously, these dedicated artists were willing to risk life and limb for the sake of wheel art!

During the event, there were a few mishaps, but no one was hurt. One car burst into flames, but with so many strange things going on, the crowd wasn't worried. Afterward the driver told a reporter, "That wasn't supposed to happen. It was just supposed to smoke a little." Instead he went down in a blaze of glory!

On the other hand, two artists were rather embarrassed when their vehicle, defying the law of gravity, refused to roll downhill without a helping hand to push. But what can you expect of a lemon whose license plate reads "Le Mons"?

Other entries, such as the giant popsicle, the enormous carrot (accompanied by a six-foot rabbit), and the huge can of satin sardines, looked good enough to eat. All the artists had worked hard on their creations and it showed. However, one artist named Barbara Spring obviously thought the whole thing was a piece of cake. Her design? A rolling layer cake, what else?

All in all, a splendid time was had by all! With 89 trophies for 88 contestants, how could they lose?

Greg de Lory's Polaroid camera coming in for a photo finish!

The crowd fell for this one — hook, line, and sinker!

Photos: Marino Colmano

That's what we call fishing for compliments!

Officially Official Dynamite Club Gift-Giver's Kit

Written by Linda Aber

Don't leave it to luck to find the perfect gifts to give! Leave it to *Dynamite*! You and all your Club Members will make the holidays jolly days for all when you pack your packages with a little bit of thoughtfulness and a lot of Dynamite!

Dynamite's top shoppers stopped in some shops to find out just what the stores have in stock for the busy buying season. Although we did find a lot of small things with a lot of big pricetags, we solved that high-priced problem simply. Instead of buying pre-packaged presents, we decided to buy a bag full of basic beginnings of some gift kits that are sure to be gift hits! With some hints from us and some ideas of your own, you'll be way ahead in the gift-giving game!

LIGHT-UP-YOUR-LIFE CANDLE KIT

Holidays are the brightest times of the year! You can make them the *lightest* times too with a colorful candle, a fancy little box of stick matches, and a candle-shaped card (made by you) that simply says, "You light up my life!" We found candles in all shapes and sizes, but were especially tempted by the sweet candle treats that were molded to look like cupcakes, tarts, and fruits. This might also make a good gift for the dieter on your list when you add a note that says, "Watch those calories melt away!" Whatever kind of candle you choose to give, it's sure to be one of the hottest gifts of the season!

SUPER SAMPLE-SIZE KIT

Good things come in small packages, but even better things come in big packages filled with small packages! This year you can be the big little giver! How? Simple. Samples! One quick trip around the grocery store will show you that a lot of products come in sample sizes just right for the person on your gift list who likes to experiment! We found all kinds of trial-size things: shampoo, cosmetics, soaps, toothpaste, candies, and even mini-boxes of biscuits for dogs! Prices ranged from 10¢ to 50¢. To put your super sample-size kit together, pick out a pile of sample packages, wrap them individually, then put them in a big box. Wrap that box too, and add a tiny sample-sized card. When your surprise package of packages is opened, you're sure to see that little things mean a lot and a lot of little things mean even more!

WILD AND CRAZY JOKE FILE KIT

The gift of laughter is a gift anyone and everyone will be happy to get! All the great comedians have files filled with jokes, giggles, and gags guaranteed to make their audiences smile, smirk, and laugh out loud! This year you can get all the applause when your Joke File Kit gift is opened. A simple metal file-card box, decorated with smiling faces or a lot of painted-on "HA HA's," and filled with your favorite jokes written out on index cards is easy to prepare. Organize your jokes alphabetically starting with A for the joke about the apple (What's worse than finding a worm in an apple? Finding half a worm!) and ending with Z for the joke about the zebra (What's black and white and black and white and black and white? A zebra rolling down a hill!). Look through your back issues of *Dynamite*, read some old joke books, and ask everyone you know to tell you a joke. Copy them all down, file them, and you'll have a gift that's sure to add lots of laughs to the holidays and all the days that follow!

GO WITH THE GLOW BLACK LIGHT KIT

Weird and wonderful things will start to appear the minute this gift kit is put into action! Give it to someone who likes to be creative and you're sure to get a glowing

DYNAMITE'S EMERGENCY CAR KIT

Getting stuck in a car is a real

supplies: several secret messages

How Would You Like To Get Christmas Presents All Year Long???

CHECK ONE:

☐ I'll think about it.
☐ I might.
☐ Oh, yes, yes!! I really would!!!

If you answered *yes-yes*, just fill in and check off this letter. Then give it to your parents for a year's subscription (that's 12 months of fun!) to the magazine you love!

Dear _____,
(fill in your parent's name here)

A very deserving person, namely your
☐ son ☐ daughter

_____,
(your name here)

has informed me that ☐ he ☐ she would like to have a year's subscription to that wonderful Scholastic magazine ☐ WOW ☐ DYNAMITE ☐ BANANAS. Since I feel that

_____
(your name)

is a truly ☐ beautiful ☐ intelligent ☐ talented and

_____
(your most lovable characteristic)

human being, and since ☐ he ☐ she has solemnly promised never again to

_____,
(the most annoying thing you did last year)

I would like to grant ☐ his ☐ her request. If you agree, my elves and I will personally deliver each issue of ☐ WOW ☐ DYNAMITE ☐ BANANAS to your child at home for a full year. You can use the handy coupon on the back to place your order.

Sincerely yours,

Santa Claus

Santa (Ho-Ho) Claus

P. S. A subscription to ☐ WOW ☐ DYNAMITE ☐ BANANAS makes a great gift for your ☐ niece ☐ nephew ☐ grandchild ☐ godchild, too! If you'd like a gift announcement card sent with any subscription ordered, just let me know.

SUPER SAMPLE-SIZE KIT

Good things come in small packages, but even better things come in big packages filled with small packages! This year you can be the big little giver! How? Simple. Samples! One quick trip around the grocery store will show you that a lot of products come in sample sizes just right for the person on your gift list who likes to experiment! We found all kinds of trial-size things: shampoo, cosmetics, soaps, toothpaste, candies, and even mini-boxes of biscuits for dogs! Prices ranged from 10¢ to 50¢. To put your super sample-size kit together, pick out a pile of sample packages, wrap them individually, then put them in a big box. Wrap that box too, and add a tiny sample-sized card. When your surprise package of packages is opened, you're sure to see that little things mean a lot and a lot of little things mean even more!

Detach here and

ENCLOSE YOUR ORDER IN THE ENVELOPE.

Lick here (slurp!), seal, and mail — *no stamp needed!*

FIRST CLASS
PERMIT No. 662
Marion, Ohio

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY

SCHOLASTIC HOME PERIODICALS

P.O. Box 1925
Marion, Ohio 43302

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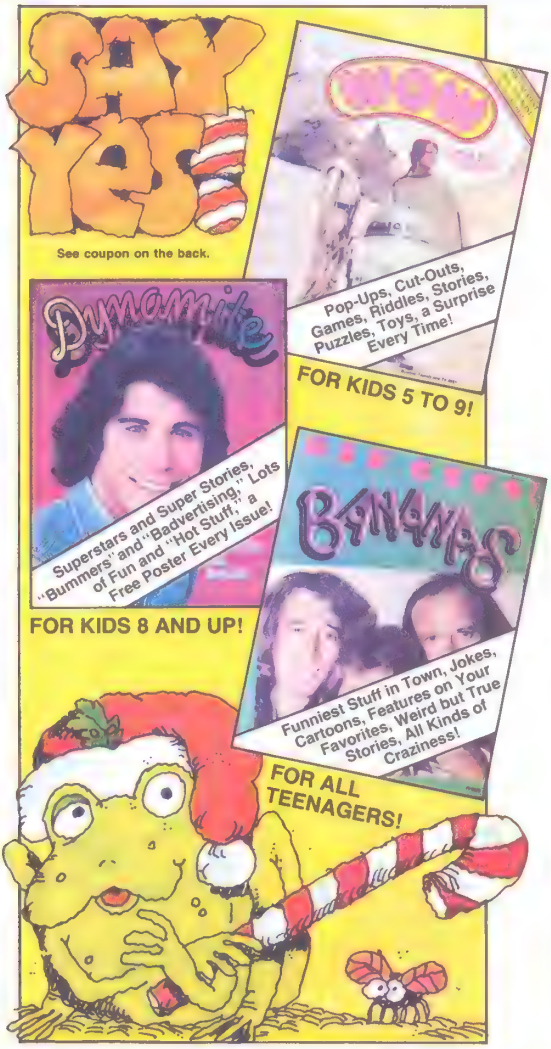
SHY Yes
See coupon on the back.
WOW
Pop-Ups, Cut-Outs, Games, Riddles, Stories, Puzzles, Toys, a Surprise Every Time!
FOR KIDS 5 TO 9!
Dynamite
Superstars and Super Stories, "Bummers" and "Badvertising," Lots of Fun and "Hot Stuff," a Free Poster Every Issue!
FOR KIDS 8 AND UP!
BANANAS
Funniest Stuff in Town, Jokes, Cartoons, Features on Your Favorites, Weird but True Stories, All Kinds of Craziness!
FOR ALL TEENAGERS!

Dear _____,
(fill in your parent's name here)

A very deserving person, namely your
☐ son ☐ daughter

_____,
(your name here)

has informed me that ☐ he ☐ she would like to have a year's subscription to that wonderful Scholastic magazine ☐ WOW ☐ DYNAMITE ☐ BANANAS. Since I feel that

_____
(your name)

is a truly ☐ beautiful ☐ intelligent ☐ talented and

_____
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human being, and since ☐ he ☐ she has solemnly promised never again to

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(the most annoying thing you did last year)

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Santa Claus

Santa (Ho-Ho) Claus

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Good things come in small packages, but even better things come in big packages filled with small packages! This year you can be the big little giver! How? Simple. Samples! One quick trip around the grocery store will show you that a lot of products come in sample sizes just right for the person on y… n… th… to… n… P… p… to… p… th… th… s… s… o… th… o…

☐ **WOW — Year's subscription: 9 issues for $7.50** EDL8T
☐ **DYNAMITE — Year's subscription: 12 issues for $9.00**
☐ **BANANAS — Year's subscription: 9 issues for $7.50**
Payment (in check or money order) must accompany your order.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent's Signature _____
☐ Please send gift card signed by _____

☐ **WOW — Year's subscription: 9 issues for $7.50** EDL8T
☐ **DYNAMITE — Year's subscription: 12 issues for $9.00**
☐ **BANANAS — Year's subscription: 9 issues for $7.50**
Payment (in check or money order) must accompany your order.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent's Signature _____
☐ Please send gift card signed by _____

☐ **WOW — Year's subscription: 9 issues for $7.50** EDL8T
☐ **DYNAMITE — Year's subscription: 12 issues for $9.00**
☐ **BANANAS — Year's subscription: 9 issues for $7.50**
Payment (in check or money order) must accompany your order.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent's Signature _____
☐ Please send gift card signed by _____

Scholastic Home Periodicals,
P.O. Box 1925,
Marion, Ohio 43302

GO WITH THE GLOW BLACK LIGHT KIT

Weird and wonderful things will start to appear the minute this gift kit is put into action! Give it to someone who likes to be creative and you're sure to get a glowing review as the greatest gift-giver of the year!

Put together a black lightbulb (the kind of bulb that makes fluorescent colors glow in the dark), a package of glow-in-the-dark fluorescent crayons, and a thick pad of drawing paper. Then your friend can create original glow-in-the-dark masks, mobiles, stationery, wall-hangings, and closet decorations. The bulbs come in lots of sizes; the one we bought fits any regular light socket. The crayons come in regular size or giant. The kooky, spooky fun comes in any size!

DYNAMITE'S EMERGENCY CAR KIT

Getting stuck in a car is a real drag. But every year millions of kids do get stuck in cars—stuck in the back seat, that is, with nothing to do except wonder when they will get where they're going. The Emergency Car Kit gift is just what's needed to beat the boredom that's been beating the back-seat riders on your gift receiving line!

Here's how to put your gift kit together. Decorate a shoe box with painted or paper stop signs with the word "Stop" in big letters and the word "boredom" in small letters underneath. Then fill up the box with the following car emergency supplies: several secret messages written in code (the easiest code is the Numbered Alphabet Code; number the letters from 1 to 26 and write your message in numbers instead of letters); a notebook of favorites to fill in (you supply the categories such as favorite stars, records, books, colors, pets, etc. and they fill in the blanks); a copy of *Dynamite;* stationery, a pen, and a stamp; and an hourglass filled with sand for watching the time go by (find it in housewares departments at most big stores). Add some of your own ideas for a car trip gift that's sure to go far!

Officially Official Dynamite Club Thought-That-Counts Coupons

Uh oh. Gift-giving time is creeping up on you and you've spent every penny you could squeeze out of your piggy bank! Relax. Don't worry. When counting your money only takes one second, that's when "the thought that counts"counts a lot!

Here are "Thought-That-Counts Coupons" and a list of thoughtful "gifts" for you to cut out, fill in, and give as gifts the next time you're presented with a present problem!

THOUGHTFUL GIFTS TO GIVE:

dishwashing

dog walking (before the dog starts barking to go out in the morning)

snack on request (presented on a tray)

room cleaning (even under the bed)

plant watering (talking to plants included)

table setting (flower and morning or evening newspaper included)

silent-service (no noise for a day)

TV channel-changing

taking out trash

entertainment (an after-dinner joke)

bed making

good advice on biggest problem

chore of your choice

Official Thought-That-Counts Coupon

To _____
gift-getter's name

I, _____,
gift-giver's name

give _____ day(s) of service with a smile.
No.

Coupon good for _____
service given

You're Number 1

Official Thought-That-Counts Coupon

To _____
gift-getter's name

I, _____,
gift-giver's name

give _____ day(s) of service with a smile.
No.

Coupon good for _____
service given

You're Number 1

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To _____
gift-getter's name

I, _____,
gift-giver's name

give _____ day(s) of service with a smile.
No.

Coupon good for _____
service given

You're Number 1

THE DYNAMITE DUO
#23
ATTEMPTING TO REACH OUTER SPACE THROUGH THE USE OF A TIME TRAVEL MACHINE, THE DUO FIND THEMSELVES TRANSPORTED TO THE YEAR 1896. WHILE NIGHTGLIDER'S THOUGHTS ARE ON ESCAPE FROM THIS TIME TRAP, DAWNSTAR'S THINKING ONLY OF CALEB, A YOUNG MAN SHE'S JUST MET...
THERE'S GOT TO BE A WAY! MAYBE THE PROFESSOR WILL BE ABLE TO CALL US BACK THROUGH THE REMOTE CONTROL DEVICES IN OUR NECKLACES.
CALEB...I KNOW HE'S HIDING SOMETHING. HE MUST BE IN TROUBLE...
HAS DAWNSTAR ADDED ESP TO HER SUPERPOWERS? FOR AT THAT MOMENT, CALEB'S IN PLENTY OF TROUBLE.
GIVE IT UP, CALEB! YOU CAN'T FIGHT ME!
YOU DON'T SCARE ME, MILLBURN--EVEN WITH YOUR PET BABOON HERE.
YOU GIVE ME NO CHOICE. ABNER, TEACH CALEB NOT TO BE SO STUBBORN!
GO AHEAD, ABNER, YOUR MASTER WANTS YOU TO DO YOUR TRICKS!
AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, THE DUO COME TO THE TOP OF THE HILL, GIVING THEM A CLEAR VIEW OF THE ACTION AT CALEB'S HOUSE.
LOOK, ISN'T THAT YOUR FRIEND, CALEB?
DON'T BE CUTE. HE NEEDS HELP. LET'S GO!

Text/Jane Sirne Illustration/King "D" Studio

WHAM!
POW!
WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO FIGHT LIKE THAT?
OH, WE KNOW A FEW TRICKS!
COME ON, ABNER, LET'S LEAVE. BUT CALEB, I WARN YOU--WE'LL BE BACK!
OKAY, CALEB! WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?
PLEASE, CALEB. WE JUST WANT TO HELP.
WELL, IT'S A LONG STORY...
EDITOR'S NOTE: NOT TOO LONG, WE HOPE. WE ONLY HAVE ONE MORE PAGE.

YOU SEE, WESTERN RAILROAD WANTS TO BUILD TRACK THROUGH HERE. SO MILLBURN WANTS TO BUY UP THE WHOLE TOWN...
...AND SELL IT BACK TO THE RAILROAD AT A HUGE PROFIT, NO DOUBT!
AND IF PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO SELL THEIR HOMES, MILLBURN ARRANGES A FIRE... IN THE END, THEY SELL. RIGHT? WHATTA CREEP!
CREEP??
THE PROBLEM IS I HAVE NO PROOF. MILLBURN USES DOZENS OF FAKE COMPANY NAMES WHEN HE BUYS THE LAND. THE SALES CAN'T BE TRACED TO HIM...UNLESS...
UNLESS WHAT?
I'VE HEARD MILLBURN HAS A LEDGER WHERE HE'S RECORDED ALL THE DEALS. IF I COULD GET THAT OUT OF HIS SAFE!
NO PROBLEM. LET'S GO! WE'LL GET IT!
DAWNSTAR, SISTER DEAR, AREN'T YOU FORGETTING OUR LITTLE PROBLEM?
DON'T WORRY, NIGHTGLIDER. RIGHT NOW WE'VE GOT TO SAVE TYLERVILLE!
OH, TERRIFIC! MY SISTER IS OUT OF HER HEAD IN LOVE AND I'M GOING TO END UP LIVING MY LIFE AS AN ANTIQUE!
OH WELL...THAT'S ALL PART OF THE SUPER-HERO BIZ. JOIN US NEXT MONTH WHEN THINGS REALLY START TO HEAT UP!

Ssshhhh...

THE SECRETS OF THE STARS

There aren't too many overnight success stories in Hollywood. Even for some of show business's biggest stars, it's been a long, hard climb to the top. While most stars can remember all the hard work, a lot of them would prefer to forget some of the odd jobs and ridiculous bit parts they took while waiting for their big breaks. This list of unforgettable facts and true tales from Tinseltown will show you just how far some Hollywood stars have come!

Before **Sylvester Stallone** knocked out Hollywood with *Rocky*, he kept his struggling acting career alive by taking odd jobs such as slicing fish in a delicatessen and cleaning cages in the Central Park Zoo.

One of **Carol Burnett's** early acting roles featured her in a big song and dance routine. Too bad it was at an industrial show where Carol sang the praises of aluminum foil. Another job brought her closer to the movies — she was an usher!

Today, **Steve McQueen** is pretty picky when it comes to choosing film roles. Back in his early days as an actor, he couldn't afford to be so choosy. In the sci-fi flick *The Blob*, McQueen played opposite the star. Few people noticed his acting talents, but that's not surprising considering he shared the screen with what appeared to be a mountain of garbage-covered Jello!

If **Burt Reynolds** looks convincing playing athletic types, that's because he was a football star in high school and college until an injury forced him to give up the pigskin and be a ham. **Lee Majors** was also a football star and was nearly drafted by a pro team, the St. Louis Cardinals. **David Hartmann** pitched for the L.A. Dodgers.

While **Richard Dreyfuss** won the Oscar last year, no one offered him one for his early acting roles. Ten years ago, he played a greasy-haired punk in a commercial for a New York auto dealer.

When they say you've got to start small, **Mary Tyler Moore** knows exactly what they mean. In her TV debut, she appeared to be 3½ inches tall in her role as the Happy Hotpoint Elf, a tiny creature who skated around kitchen appliances in TV commercials.

Illustration/Sam Viviano

Michael Landon, a big star in the Little House series, once played the title role in *I Was a Teenage Werewolf*. **Oliver Reed,** the English star of stage and screen, was also a howling success in *Curse of the Werewolf*.

Before **Robert Redford** became a star, he had all kinds of odd jobs such as bagging groceries. Later he got the sack from that job and took off to Europe to develop his art — being a painter — before he made it as an actor.

Robert Blake was a child star at age 5, playing Spanky's pal Mickey in the Our Gang comedies. Later he played a young Mexican opposite Humphrey Bogart in *Treasure of the Sierra Madre*. By 16 he was washed up as an actor, but later he returned to movies as a stuntman.

Diana Ross once worked as a secretary for Motown Records president Berry Gordy. Legend has it that she was fired for bursting into song every time Gordy opened his door. Later she was rehired as a background singer for $2.50 an hour.

Cher recorded her first record under the name Bonnie Jo Mason. The record, "I Love You, Ringo," went nowhere and no one blamed Cher for not using her real name.

Long before **Steve Stills** became a superstar with Crosby, Stills and Nash, he auditioned for a role on the TV show *The Monkees* and he flunked.

Speaking of famous failures, **Lucille Ball** was once sent home from an acting class because the teacher thought she was too shy to become an actress. **Clark Gable,** a Hollywood idol for years, worked as a lumberjack before he took his first screen test. He flunked because someone thought his ears would look too big on screen.

Before **Cheryl Ladd** landed a role on *Charlie's Angels*, she was a singer. One of her first jobs was singing for the cartoon series *Josie and the Pussycats*.

Anne Bancroft wouldn't exactly call her role in *Gorilla at Large* a turning point in her career. Maybe that's because she had to wear a gorilla suit in the film!

Now that we've spilled these screen stars' secrets, you can see that when some stars say they've worked their way up from the bottom — they aren't kidding!

— Chip Lovitt

You Know It's Going To Be a Long Winter When...

How can you tell if the winter is going to be a long one or a short one? Well, you could wait till February and check out the groundhog and his shadow. But frankly, rodents don't tend to be any more accurate than TV weather reporters. There must be a better way to tell if it will be a long winter! Of course there is, and *Dynamite* is here to tell you...

You know it's going to be a long winter when...

you've had a cold for so long that you're asked to star in the Christmas play as Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer!

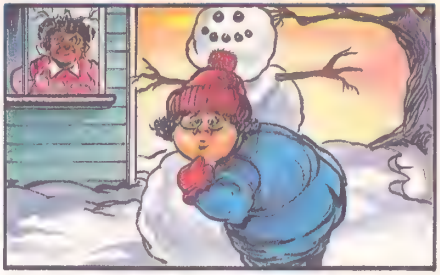
You know it's going to be a long winter when...

all your friends have neat down-filled ski jackets and you still haven't outgrown your cute little red snowsuit!

You know it's going to be a long winter when...

your gym teacher invents a new sport — long distance freezing!

You know it's going to be a long winter when...

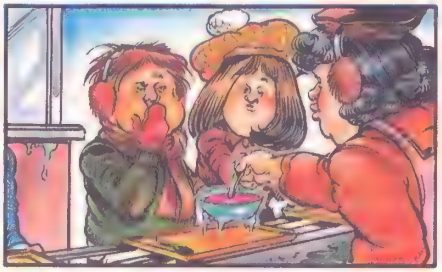


the very first snowball you throw goes through the kitchen window!

You know it's going to be a long winter when...

your father's Christmas gift to you is a snow shovel!

You know it's going to be a long winter when...

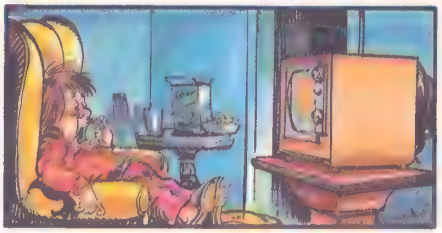


it's so cold in school that the cafeteria is selling tomato soup popsicles!

You know it's going to be a long winter when...

there's 10 feet of snow on the ground and your school has suddenly adopted the motto "We Never Close"!

You know it's going to be a long winter when...



it's only November and you've already seen 20 Christmas specials on TV and coming up next is the *Peace on Earth Brotherhood Special* starring Don Rickles and Howard Cosell!

Illustration/Bob Taylor

MAGIC WANDA

The Incredible Clock-Stopping Caper

Hey, what's happening? This is Magic Wanda with the magic trick of the month. This one is a mystifying mind-reading trick that's simple but sneaky. All you need are a pencil and a clock with a large face and numbers. (If you don't have one, a large round piece of paper with numbers drawn on it like a clock will work just as well.)

The Trick

A friend will silently choose any number on a clock face. A few moments later, you'll find that number.

Begin by asking a friend to pick any number on the clock face without telling you which. When your friend has picked a number, explain that you are going to tap numbers on the clock face with the pencil. Tell your friend that each time you tap, he or she should count silently, starting with the number *after* the secret number. For example, if your friend chose four, he or she should silently say "five" as you tap the first number and then 6, 7, and so on with each tap. If 12 was picked, start counting with the number one. When your friend reaches the number 20, instead of silently saying "20," he or she should yell "Stop!" Your friend will be amazed because the pencil will be pointing at the secret number.

The Secret

It's as easy as 1-2-3. As you begin tapping the clock face, your friend will start counting silently. For the first seven taps, you may tap any numbers in any order you wish. But on the eighth tap, you must point to the number 12. Then on each successive tap, you count down and tap 11, then 10, 9, 8 and so on. You should count silently to yourself. It works automatically. When your friend says stop, the pencil will be resting on the secret number.

Do you have any mystifying magic tricks you'd like to see in *Dynamite*? Send them to: Magic Wanda, c/o *Dynamite*, 50 W. 44th St., N.Y., NY 10036.

Love, Peace, and Magic,

Magic Wanda

One thing you've got to say for Dynamite Kids, they know about all the things grown-ups won't say to other grown-ups. Last year, we published a list of some of these familiar phrases, and since then, kids everywhere have been sending us more suggestions. So without any further ado, here's another list of . . .

TEN THINGS YOU'LL NEVER HEAR ONE GROWN-UP SAY TO ANOTHER GROWN-UP

Eat your dinner, or you'll get no dessert!
Glenn Buese, Washington, MO

Did you answer politely?
Janice Poniatowski, Saskatoon, Canada

Go get a tissue and blow your nose.
Hebert, Ellicott City, MD

Fix your part — it's crooked!
Lori Pacelli, Stuart, FL

Don't sit so close to the TV, you'll hurt your eyes!
Cindi Mandell, Brooklyn, NY

When was the last time you took a bath?
Susana Cruzada, Cleveland, OH

Eat it, it's good for you!
Tim Ruane, Elmhurst, IL

Wipe that grin off your face!
Beth Miller, Nashville, TN

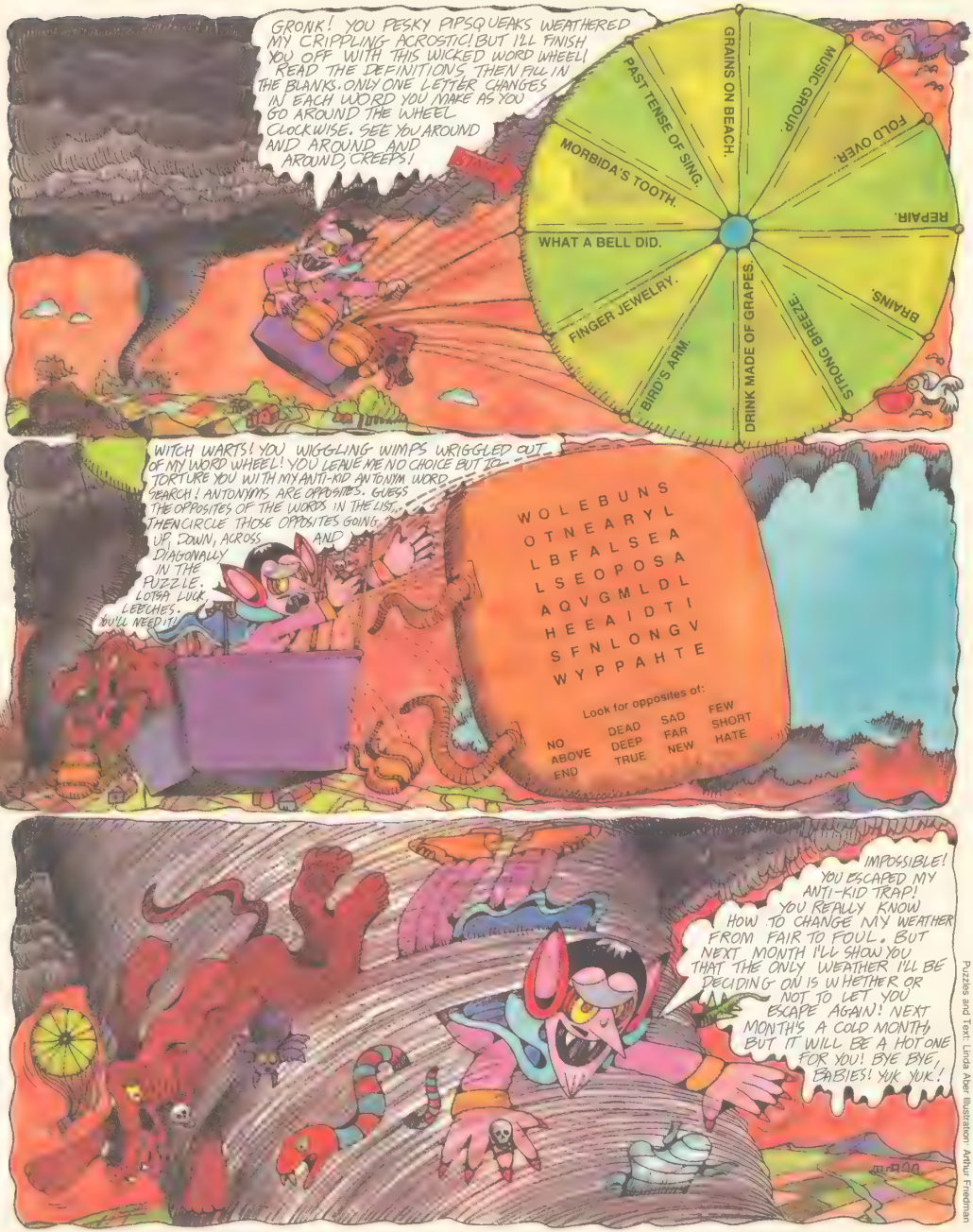
Don't play with your food.
Marcie Drake, Lyme, CN

Bundle up, it's cold outside!
Charley Wittman, Allentown, PA

Illustration/Bob Shein

COUNT MORBIDA'S MONTHLY PUZZLE PAGES

SURPRISE, SURPRISE. LOOK WHO'S HERE. YOU FOUL-WEATHER FUSSBUDGETS ARE BACK TO BOTHER ME, COUNT MORBIDA, PRINCE OF PERIL! AS YOU SEE, I'VE TAKEN UP WEATHER FORECASTING, BUT YOU'LL NEVER FIND THE WEATHER WORDS I CHOOSE TO USE MOST OFTEN. THEY'RE HIDDEN IN THE SENTENCES BELOW. UNDERLINE THEM AS YOU FIND THEM. LOOKS LIKE ROUGH WEATHER AHEAD FOR YOU, KIDDIES! YUK YUK YUK!
1. Is the other mom eternally grateful to Count Morbida's mom for keeping her son locked up?
2. There's a haunted path under the old bridge.
3. Make it fast or Morbida will trap you forever!
4. There was no witch watching the bubbling kettle.
5. Is Mac louder than Dracula when they sing?
6. The monster has torn a door off its hinges!
SUFFERING SUN SPOTS! YOU SPUTTERING SPIES ARE STAYING AT MY WEATHER STATION WHETHER YOU'RE WANTED OR NOT! TRYING TO FIND OUT HOW I KNOW WHAT THE WEATHER WILL BE, EH? THE ANSWER IS IN THIS CRIPPLING ACROSTIC. FILL IN THE DEFINITIONS, THEN WRITE THE LETTERS IN THE MATCHING NUMBER BOXES. THIS ONE WILL BLOW YOU AWAY! HA HA HA HA!
A. Taste of sugar. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ (17 1 24 14 4)
B. Not cooked. ___ ___ ___ (7 21 19)
C. Bee's house. ___ ___ ___ ___ (23 12 8 18)
D. Back. ___ ___ ___ ___ (13 6 9 25)
E. Encounter. ___ ___ ___ ___ (10 2 20 22)
F. Keep in a bank. ___ ___ ___ ___ (15 3 26 27)
G. Give a penalty for wrong-doing. ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ (11 16 29 28 30 5)
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30


GRONK! YOU PESKY PIPSQUEAKS WEATHERED MY CRIPPLING ACROSTIC! BUT I'LL FINISH YOU OFF WITH THIS WICKED WORD WHEEL! READ THE DEFINITIONS THEN FILL IN THE BLANKS. ONLY ONE LETTER CHANGES IN EACH WORD YOU MAKE AS YOU GO AROUND THE WHEEL CLOCKWISE. SEE YOU AROUND AND AROUND AND AROUND, CREEPS!
GRAINS ON BEACH.
MUSIC GROUP.
FOLD OVER.
REPAIR.
BRAINS.
STRONG BREEZE.
DRINK MADE OF GRAPES.
BIRD'S ARM.
FINGER JEWELRY.
WHAT A BELL DID.
MORBIDA'S TOOTH.
PAST TENSE OF SING.
WITCH WARTS! YOU WIGGLING WIMPS WRIGGLED OUT OF MY WORD WHEEL! YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE BUT TO TORTURE YOU WITH MY ANTI-KID ANTONYM WORD SEARCH! ANTONYMS ARE OPPOSITES. GUESS THE OPPOSITES OF THE WORDS IN THE LIST. THEN CIRCLE THOSE OPPOSITES GOING UP, DOWN, ACROSS AND DIAGONALLY IN THE PUZZLE. LOTSA LUCK, LEECHES. YOU'LL NEED IT!
W O L E B U N S
O T N E A R Y L
L B F A L S E A
L S E O P O S A
A Q V G M L D L
H E E A I D T I
S F N L O N G V
W Y P P A H T E
Look for opposites of:
NO
ABOVE
END
DEAD
DEEP
TRUE
SAD
FAR
NEW
FEW
SHORT
HATE
IMPOSSIBLE! YOU ESCAPED MY ANTI-KID TRAP! YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO CHANGE MY WEATHER FROM FAIR TO FOUL. BUT NEXT MONTH I'LL SHOW YOU THAT THE ONLY WEATHER I'LL BE DECIDING ON IS WHETHER OR NOT TO LET YOU ESCAPE AGAIN! NEXT MONTH'S A COLD MONTH, BUT IT WILL BE A HOT ONE FOR YOU! BYE BYE, BABIES! YUK YUK!

Puzzles and Text: Linda Aber Illustration: Arthur Friedman

Answers Inside Back Cover

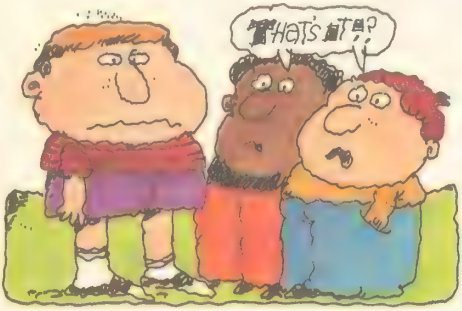
BUMMERS

Join the Group Gripe by sending in your own Bummer, and our *Dynamite* artist might pick your idea to illustrate. Send all cranky suggestions to: *Dynamite*, 50 West 44th St., New York, NY 10036. If we pick your Bummer, we'll send you $5.00. If you don't hear from us, don't give up, you may still win one day! P.S.: You don't have to draw the picture.

Don't you hate when you're in the bathtub and someone turns off the lights!

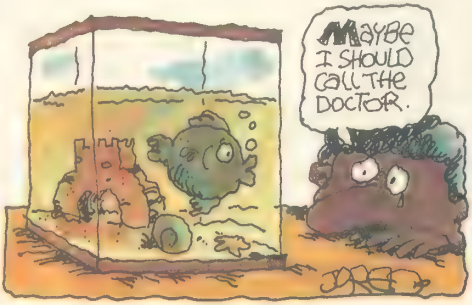
Daniel Batterman, Cherry Hill, NJ

Don't you hate when you get a friend a Christmas present who didn't get you one!



Don't you hate when you tell a joke and nobody laughs!

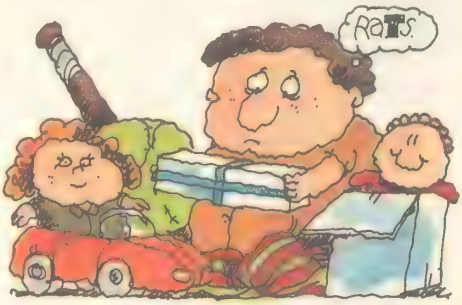
Michael Ryan, Boston, MA



Don't you hate when your sister pours soda pop into your fish tank because she thought the fish was thirsty.

Steven Simqu, Pittsburgh, PA.

Don't you hate when the only reason you get the honor of playing the lead character, Santa Claus, in the school play is because you're fat!



Don't you hate opening your last present!

Illustration/Jared Lee

GOOD VIBRATIONS

Paulina Kernberg, M.D.

Thank you for all the interesting letters you have been sending me. It's great that so many of you want to share your feelings with other readers. Our first letter has to do with running a Dynamite Club.

"Nobody shows up..."

Dear Dr. Kernberg,

I have a Dynamite Club with six members. However, now nobody shows up. I overheard some of the members saying I was stupid. How can I get them back into the club?

A., Washington, D.C.

Dear A.,

Whenever you start something new, there are problems. If you really want to have a Dynamite Club or some other club, keep at it. Maybe part of the problem is that you were making the club too much just "your club." Maybe if you make sure that each of the kids has his or her own special part to do in running the club, things would be smoother. Everyone wants to feel needed and important, and a club that lets everyone feel this way will be more successful. Call a meeting and discuss reorganizing the club and you may have more luck this time.

"No one cares what I do..."

Dear Dr. Kernberg,

My problem is this. I hunt a lot — especially ducks. Hunting ducks is very important to me, and I talk about it a lot. My problem is that no one cares what I do, and they just tell me to be quiet.

Q., CA

Dear Q.,

First of all, it is very good that you have an interest. I'm sure you know a great deal about duck hunting and it's only natural that you want to share this knowledge. However, you have to remember that other people have interests too. If you talk about the things your friends are interested in, they'll be much more eager to listen to you talk about your favorite subject. It isn't that people don't care about you, it's just that they don't care as much about hunting as you do.

If you have any problems or thoughts you'd like to share with other readers, write to Dr. Kernberg, Good Vibrations, *Dynamite*, 50 West 44th St., New York, NY 10036. (Sorry, no answers by mail.)

Win a Dynamite Prize!

Are you the lucky type? You will be if you win one of the two super terrific Smith Corona typewriters we're giving away.

To enter this contest, just fill out the questionnaire below. Be honest — we don't look at the answers until after we pick the winners at random. Then send your questionnaire to:

Dynamite /Type
50 West 44th St.
New York, NY 10036

Get your questionnaire in before March 1, 1979, and you may be one of the two lucky winners!

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Age _____ Grade _____

I am a boy _____ I am a girl _____

I get *Dynamite* in school _____ I get *Dynamite* at home _____

My three favorite TV shows are _____

_____

My three favorite music stars are _____

_____

This is the first *Dynamite* I ever got. Yes _____ No _____

Now it's our report card time. Give a grade to all the articles in this month's *Dynamite*. Put a 4 next to the title if you thought the feature was great, 3 for good, 2 for keep trying, 1 for bad, and 0 for yecchhh!

Galactica article _____

Peanuts quiz _____

And Now a Word From Our Sponsor _____

Literary Losers (jokes) _____

Hot Stuff _____

Auto Graphics (soap box cars) _____

Club Gift-Givers Kit _____

Dynamite Duo _____

Secrets of the Stars _____

You know its going to be a long winter when _____

Magic Wanda's Magic _____

Ten Things You Won't Hear One Grown-Up Say To Another Grown-Up _____

Count Morbida's puzzles _____

Bummers _____

Good Vibrations _____

Title Search puzzle _____

Greeting cards _____

Stickers _____

DYNAMITE DATELINE

Dec. 1: Woody Allen's birthday. He'd go bananas if you sent him a card: c/o United Artists, 729 7th Ave., N.Y., NY 10019.

Dec. 9: Donny Osmond's birthday. Brother, you can spare a dime to get this Osmond a card. Send it to Donny Osmond, Osbro Productions, 1420-East 800 North, Orem, UT 84057.

Dec. 12: Sleigh bells aren't the only bells ringing this day. Today is National Ding-a-ling Day!

Dec. 15: Today is National Underdog Day. Take an underdog out to lunch!

Dec. 22: Winter begins. Button up!

Dec. 25: Christmas Day and Chanukah begins! Happy Holidays to all!

Dec. 29: What makes Mary Tyler Moore merry? Why, happy birthday wishes from you, of course! Mary: c/o MTM Enterprises, CBS Studio Center, 7800 Beverly Blvd., L.A., CA 90036

Dec. 31: New Year's Eve. Quick! You still have 24 hours to break all those sensible resolutions you've written down. Remember, there's always tomorrow!

Finders, Keepers

Losers, weepers, they always say! Well, how would you like to find a note in a bottle that promised you a share in twelve million dollars? That's right, gang. You heard it right. It really happened to one lucky man and his story is only one of the many strange but true tales about messages found in seagoing bottles uncorked in the book, **The Twelve Million Dollar Note.** Coming your way from the Arrow Book Club next month, this book tells of notes found in bottles that have solved mysteries, uncovered crimes, caused lawsuits, and more! Read all about it and remember, if you're ever on a beach, keep your eyes open!

And don't lose out on these other eye-openers we found on the Arrow December list:

Adventure in the Arctic makes for a whale of a book called **The Iceberg Hermit.** It's all about 17-year-old Allan, who is marooned in the polar north after his whaling ship strikes an iceberg and then sinks. Alone, without food or shelter, how can Allan survive? This book's a real chiller!

The Black Stallion: Nine-year-old Alec is on his way home from India when suddenly *his* ship is struck by lightning and he too has that sinking feeling! Alec runs to rescue the beautiful Arabian stallion on board, but as he heaves open the door of the stall, the terrified horse plunges out and over the rail, dragging Alec with him into the sea. Don't miss this classic story of a magnificent horse and the boy who loves him.

The Monsters' Room: It used to be Peter's room until Dracula, Frankie, and other assorted witches, warlocks, and demons made it their hangout. How could Peter and his two resident mice scare up a solution to this monster of a problem? We'll never tell!

Veronica Ganz: Veronica had a monster problem too. That little monster, Peter Wedemeyer, is making her life miserable. All the other kids in school know better than to tangle with Veronica—better known as the class bully. But Peter, that little shrimp, has to be taught a lesson — if only she can catch him. . . . A story that's the height of hilarity!

Remember, you can't order these books from *Dynamite*. You can only get them from your teacher and the Arrow Book Club.

Here's Some
Inside Stuff
About What's Up
in the Next Issue
of *Dynamite!*

Just You Wait!

The Love Boat: Cruise along with the cast and crew of TV's favorite ship.

The Wiz: Unbelievable pictures of the new movie! Ease on down the road with *Dynamite!*

A giant year-round calendar to hang on your wall, complete with all the nutty dates you'll want to remember!

Plus: A story about **a real haunted house! One of Abbott and Costello's funniest routines! An impossible maze!** And our **silly awards for the craziest events of 1978!**

Answers to Count Morbida's Puzzles

Hidden Weather Words

1. other mom eternally; 2. path under; 3. fast or Morbida; 4. was no witch; 5. Mac louder; 6. torn a door.

Crippling Acrostic

Wicked Word Wheel

Fang/Sang/Sand/Band/Bend/Mend/
Mind/Wind/Wine/Wing/Ring/Rang.

Anti-Kid Antonym Word Search

Opposites to look for:
yes; alive; happy; many;
below; shallow; near; love;
begin; false; old; long.

Title Search

A Dynamite picture puzzle

You're entitled to a little fun — and maybe a little frustration with this picture puzzle. The pictures on the four book covers are actually rebuses for four very famous books. A rebus is a puzzle that substitutes a picture for a word. For example, a rebus for the word "butterfly" might show a stick of butter with a fly next to it. See how well you do solving these puzzling pictures. Then when you're ready to give up, turn the page upside down for the answers.

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Answers from the bottom to the top clockwise: *Little Women, Oliver Twist, Roots, The Three Musketeers.*